the post of Commanders. Therefore, Alliance Air is making efforts to meet the shortage of Co-Pilots by recruiting pilots from within India and Commanders by recruiting expatriate pilots.

Delhi as a **Major Tourist Destination for Commonwealth Games**

*230 SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by Government to showcase Delhi as a major tourist destination especially in view of the upcoming Commonwealth Games in 2010;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism has been assisting the State Governments for the development of infrastructure under its scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development of Tourist Circuits and Destination based on the receipt of the project proposals, merit of the proposal, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

It has been decided to focus on both development of infrastructure and promotion and marketing of India as a tourism destination for the upcoming Commonwealth Games. The strategy in this regard involves up-gradation of tourist infrastructure of Delhi and surrounding areas and augmentation of tourist accommodation facilities in the region. The Action Plan includes:

(i) Improvement of infrastructure around heritage sites/tourist spots;

(ii) Development/Up-gradation of civic amenities at the historical sites and tourists spots;

(iii) Improvement and up-gradation of connectivity between Airport to City, hotels, stadia and tourist spots;

(iv) Organization of evening entertainment/cultural programmes;

(v) Installation of multi-lingual signages;

(vi) Compilation of data bank of guides/escorts;

(vii) Organization of art/craft exhibitions.